

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:06 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, S. Marr, G. Pohorely, D. Butler
Absent: S. McDonald

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Tuesday, September 10, 2019. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of August 14, 2019.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. New Jersey Forest Service – A congratulatory letter from Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator, Carrie Sargeant. The Shade Tree Commission’s fourth 5-year Community Forestry Management Plan was approved for 2019-2023. This will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Grand Avenue Streetscape – The Borough Engineer, Kevin Smith researched ways to allow the replacement trees enough growth without damaging the sidewalks. The plans involve the installation of 10 x 10 planting beds approximately 3’ below the surface, along with root barrier. This provides sufficient space for the roots to spread without reaching the surface area. The Commissioners need to mark out the specific locations for the new trees, so Kevin can relay this information to the contractors. It was decided that the Commissioners meet on September 15th and walk down Grand Ave. to note the areas for replacements trees and avoid locations with overhead wires. The Commission also selected 3 species that would be conducive for the renovated Grand Avenue project. The Commission’s choices are the Bowhall Red Maple, Pyramidal Beech and Corinthian Linden, which are tall columnar branching trees. This information will be relayed to the Borough Engineer along with the street map indicating the tree planting locations.
2. Green Communities Grant Update – All requirements have been submitted to the Grant Administrator, Patricia Shapella. The \$3,000 grant monies should be sent to the Shade Tree Commission within the following weeks.

3. 47 Alvin Sloan Avenue – K. Halpin contacted property owner, Robert Cammarota to discuss the type of tree replacement he selected. The October Glory Red Maple was the agreeable choice. K. Halpin assured Mr. Cammarota that the Maple tree will be planted in the Fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New Shade Tree Commissioner – David Butler will be sworn in as a member at the October meeting. The Borough Council appointed David through Resolution #2019-141 at their September 17th meeting.
2. 58 Alvin Sloan Ave. – Property owner (Pete Kaspereen) requested a tree be evaluated due to noticeable signs of deterioration. This location will be added to the next maintenance list for a professional evaluation.
3. 201 Belvidere Ave. – Property owners (Paul & Natalie DePretis) submitted a letter requesting advice on their sidewalk repair, due to a water main break. They also noticed that two additional concrete slabs were starting to lift from tree roots. The Borough Engineer, Kevin Smith provided instructions to replace the sidewalk and permit requirements for the owners. There is no further action to be taken. The owners' letter will be filed for future reference.
4. Shade Tree Commission Webpage - The Mission Statement and program goals will be updated on the Borough's website.
5. Maintenance List – A maintenance proposal will be requested for review at the October meeting. The following locations include tree/stump removals, evaluations, and the purchase and planting cost of two trees:
Borough Park, 44 W. Warren St., 342 N. Prospect St., 20 Carlton Ave., 47 & 58 Alvin Sloan Ave., 118 Wayne St.,

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming